

## **REMARKS**

Claims in the case are 1, 2, 4-14, 16-24 and 26-29 upon entry of this amendment. Claims 1, 14, 16 and 26 have been amended, Claims 28 and 29 have been added, and Claim 15 has been cancelled herein. Claims 3 and 25 were previously cancelled in an amendment dated November 7, 2003.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 15 therein, accordingly Claim 15 has been cancelled herein. Basis for the inclusion of the average particle diameter of the inorganic particulate materials of Claim 1 is found at page 21, lines 14-21 of the specification.

Claims 14 and 16 have been amended in light of the amendments to Claim 1.

Claim 26 has been amended in a manner similar to that of Claim 1. Basis for the amendments to Claim 26 are found in Claim 15 and at page 20, line 26 through page 21, line 21, and in particular at page 21, lines 14-21 of the specification.

Basis for added Claims 28 and 29 (which each depend from Claim 1) is found at page 21, lines 14-21 of the specification.

Claims 1, 2, 4-14 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,272,193 (**Fuhr et al**). This rejection is respectfully traversed in light of the amendments herein and the following remarks.

Fuhr et al disclose a thermoplastic polycarbonate composition that includes: a thermoplastic aromatic polycarbonate; optionally a copolymer (e.g., of styrene and maleic anhydride); a graft copolymer; a phosphoric acid ester; and a particular anti-dripping agent, which is in the form of fibers or finely divided powders deposited on a carrier. See the Abstract and column 1, lines 6-55 of Fuhr et al.

Fuhr et al does not disclose a polycarbonate composition that includes an inorganic particulate material selected from talc, mica, wollastonite, quartz and titanium dioxide, and having an average particle diameter of less and 200 nm.

It is noted that the present rejection does not include Claim 15. The subject matter of Claim 15 has been incorporated into Claim 1 by amendment herein.

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicants' claims are deemed to be unanticipated by and patentable over Fuhr et al.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fuhr et al in view of United States Patent No. 4,603,170 (**Witman et al**). This rejection is respectfully traversed with regard to the amendments herein and the following remarks.

Witman et al disclose thermoplastic molding compounds that include: an aromatic polycarbonate; optionally a polyalkylene terephthalate; optionally a graft polymer; and a polyester that is prepared from diols containing at least one diaryl sulphone group (abstract). The thermoplastic molding compositions of Witman et al may optionally further include fillers, such as mica, quartz, talcum, titanium dioxide and wallastonite. See column 6, lines 59-66 of Witman et al.

The thermoplastic molding compounds of Witman et al include as a necessary component, a polyester prepared from diols containing at least one diaryl sulphone group. Fuhr et al has been discussed previously herein, and provides no disclosure or suggestion as to the inclusion in their compositions of polyesters that are prepared from diols containing diaryl sulphone groups. As such, a skilled artisan would not be motivated to combine or otherwise modify the disclosures of Fuhr et al and Witman et al.

Even if Fuhr et al and Witman et al were combined, Applicants' presently claimed polycarbonate composition would not result from such combination. Fuhr et al and Witman et al, either alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest a polycarbonate composition that includes an inorganic particulate material selected from talc, mica, wollastonite, quartz and titanium dioxide, and having an average particle diameter of less than 200 nm.

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicants' claims are deemed to be unobvious and patentable over Fuhr et al in view of Witman et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 19-22, 26 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,296,908 B1 (**Reihs et al**) in view of Fuhr et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed in light of the amendments herein and the following remarks.

Reihs et al disclose composite materials having: at least one first composite layer of polyurethane; and a second composite layer (e.g., of polycarbonate) that is bonded directly to the first layer. See the abstract and column 7, lines 6-14 of Reihs et al.

Fuhr et al has been discussed previously herein and discloses thermoplastic polycarbonate compositions that include, as an essential component an anti-dripping agent in the form of fibers or finely divided powder that are deposited on carriers (column 1, lines 51-55). As is known to the skilled artisan, a polycarbonate layer containing anti-dripping agents in such a form as described by Fuhr et al would likely result in a laminate of polyurethane and polycarbonate layers having degraded appearance. The degraded appearance would be due to surface defects in the polyurethane layer resulting from the presence of the fibers and/or anti-dripping carriers in the underlying polycarbonate layer, which would translate up through the polyurethane layer. As such, a skilled artisan would not be motivated to combine or otherwise modify Reihs et al and Fuhr et al to arrive at Applicants' presently claimed composition.

Even if Reihs et al and Fuhr et al were combined, Applicants' presently claimed composition would not result from such combination. Reihs et al and Fuhr et al, either alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest a multilayered composite that includes a polycarbonate layer containing an inorganic particulate material selected from talc, mica, wollastonite, quartz and titanium dioxide, and having an average particle diameter of less than 200 nm.

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicants' claims are deemed to be unobvious and patentable over Reihs et al in view of Fuhr et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reihs et al in view of Fuhr et al, and further in view of JP 07-268207 (**Masuda**). This rejection is respectfully traversed with regard to the amendments herein and the following remarks.

Masuda discloses a laminate which includes: (i) a polyurethane layer containing a metal perchlorate and/or a perchloric acid modified hydrotalcite; and (ii) a vinyl chloride resin layer (abstract).

The lack of motivation to combine Reihs et al and Fuhr et al has been discussed previously herein and is summarized as follows. Reihs et al disclose composite materials having: at least one first composite layer of polyurethane; and a second composite layer (e.g., of polycarbonate) that is bonded directly to the first layer. Fuhr et al disclose thermoplastic polycarbonate compositions that include as an essential component an anti-dripping agent in the form of fibers or finely divided powder that are deposited on carriers. As is known to the skilled artisan, a polycarbonate layer containing anti-dripping agents in such a form as described by Fuhr et al would likely result in a laminate of polyurethane and polycarbonate layers having degraded appearance. The degraded appearance would be due to surface defects in the polyurethane layer resulting from the presence of the fibers and/or anti-dripping carriers in the underlying polycarbonate layer, which would translate up through the polyurethane layer. As such, a skilled artisan would not be motivated to combine or otherwise modify Reihs et al and Fuhr et al to arrive at Applicants' presently claimed composition.

The polyurethane layer of Masuda's laminate contains, as an essential component, a metal perchlorate and/or perchloric acid modified hydrotalcite. Reihs et al does not disclose or suggest that the polyurethane layer of their composite material contain a metal perchlorate and/or a perchloric acid modified hydrotalcite. As such, a skilled artisan would not be motivated to combine Reihs et al and Masuda together.

Reihs et al disclose their composite material as including: (i) at least one polyurethane layer; and (ii) a single second layer (e.g., of polycarbonate) that is bonded directly to the polyurethane layer (i). Reihs et al do not disclose, teach or suggest the presence of additional second layers that are bonded one to the other. As such, Reihs et al provides no motivation to include an additional third layer in their composite material that is different than the polyurethane layer, and which is


not bonded directly to the polyurethane layer. In light of this, a skilled artisan would not be motivated to combine and/or modify Reihs et al alone (or a combination of Reihs et al and Fuhr et al) with Masuda to arrive at Applicants' presently claimed composite.

Even if Reihs et al, Fuhr et al and Masuda were combined, Applicants' presently claimed composite would not result from such combination. Reihs et al, Fuhr et al and Masuda, either alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest a multi-layered composite that includes a polycarbonate layer containing an inorganic particulate material selected from talc, mica, wollastonite, quartz and titanium dioxide, and having an average particle diameter of less than 200 nm.

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicants' claims are deemed to be unobvious and patentable over Reihs et al in view of Fuhr et al, and further in view of Masuda. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection is respectfully requested.

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicants' presently pending claims are deemed to define an invention that is unanticipated, unobvious and hence, patentable. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the presently pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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